



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 08442.0002-04000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Joseph C. CAUTHEN) Group Art Unit: 3738
Application No.: 10/085,040) Examiner: U. Chattopadhyay
Filed: March 1, 2002) Confirmation No.: 8078
For: INTERVERTEBRAL DISC)
ANNULUS STENT)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING
REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed October 17, 2005, the period for response having been extended to March 17, 2006 by a request for extension of two months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, Applicant proposes that this application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims in this paper.

Remarks/Arguments follow the amendment sections of this paper.